

North Carolina Air National Guard

TGIF News

(The **G**uard Is **F**amily)

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Various Companies, Theme Parks—Have Opened Their Doors to Thank Our Military Troops

Below is a list of special Offers for Military Members and their Families, we will try to keep this front page current each issue, so you all can take advantage of all these deals.

Disney's Armed Forces Salute



To honor America's service men and women, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts is offering active members of the U.S. military a complimentary 5-day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Ticket, valid for admission to Disney's theme parks, water parks and more at the **Walt Disney World®** Resort, through December 19, 2003. Active members of the U.S. military may also purchase 5-day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Companion Tickets for \$99 each (plus tax) for up to

five family members or friends. See important details below.

One Complimentary 5-day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Ticket

Now through December 19, 2003 active U.S. Military personnel with proper ID (including active members of the U.S. Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard or Reservists), are eligible to receive one complimentary 5-Day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Ticket.

This Ticket is valid for admission by the active member of the military to the following **Walt Disney World®** Parks and Places for five days (on or before December 19, 2003), with the freedom to visit multiple Parks and Places on the same day:

Magic Kingdom® Park

Epcot®

Disney MGM Studios Disney's Animal Kingdom® Theme Park

DisneyQuest® Indoor Interactive Theme Park

Disney's Blizzard Beach Water Park

Disney's Typhoon Lagoon Water Park

Downtown Disney® Pleasure Island

Disney's Wide World of Sports® Complex

(Valid only on event days. Some events require an additional admission charge.)

To acquire the 5-Day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Ticket, active military personnel must present their valid and active Military IDs at any **Walt Disney World®** Theme Park Ticket Window prior to December 19, 2003. Activated members of the National Guard or Reservists also must show active duty orders.

This Ticket expires and may not be used after December 19, 2003. This Ticket may be obtained ONLY at **Walt Disney World®** Theme Park Ticket Windows once during the offer period. Each day this Ticket is used at any of the Parks or Places listed above constitutes one full day of use.

5-Day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion Ticket - Only \$99 Each (plus tax)

Each active member of the U.S. Military may also purchase up to five 5-Day Armed Forces Salute Companion Tickets one time during the offer period for family members or friends. If active members of the U.S. Military are unable to come to the **Walt Disney World®** Resort during the offer period, their spouses may purchase up to five of these Tickets one time during the offer period for family members or friends (including the spouse). The price of these Tickets is only \$99 each (plus tax). Active members of the U.S. Military include active members of the U.S. Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard or Reservists. Each 5-Day Armed Forces Salute Companion Ticket entitles the family member or friend to the same admission benefits as the 5-Day Armed Forces Salute Ticket described above. To purchase 5-Day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Companion Tickets, active Military Personnel must present valid and active U.S. Military IDs, together with their complimentary 5-Day *Disney's Armed Forces Salute* Ticket. Their spouses, if the active Military Personnel are not present, must present valid and active U.S. Military IDs. Activated members of the National Guard or Reservists (or their spouses, if the activated members are not present) must also show active duty orders.

These Tickets expire and may not be used after December 19, 2003. These Tickets are available for purchase **ONLY** at **Walt Disney World®** Theme Park Ticket Windows. These Tickets may be purchased only by the active U.S. Military member or spouse (not both). Maximum of one of ticket may be purchased for any family member or friend. Tickets may be used only by the persons for whom they are purchased. Valid ID may be required for admission. Each day this Ticket is used at **any** of the Parks or Places listed above constitutes one full day of use. This offer may not be combined with any other offer. For additional information regarding these tickets, as well as other **Walt Disney World®** tickets, please call (407) 939-7424†.

Special Walt Disney World Resort Room Offers available

Active U.S. Military personnel or spouses are also eligible for a 40% savings per night (based on the non-discounted price of the same room) at select **Walt Disney World®** Resort hotels. This offer is available most nights through December 19, 2003 and the number of rooms available at this savings is limited. Call (407) 939-7424† for more information.

COMPANY: **DISNEY – Disney Cruises**

PROMOTION: *"Disney's Armed Forces Salute"*

OFFER TIME: June 19-December 18, 2003

DETAILS: Disney Cruise Line is extending special rates to active military personnel. Disney Cruise Line offers 7-night cruise vacations to the eastern and western Caribbean, and 3- and 4-night cruises to the Bahamas. On select sailings from June 19–Aug. 24, rates start at \$379 for a three-night cruise, \$429 for a four-night cruise and \$799 for a seven-night cruise. On select sailings from Aug. 28–Dec. 18, rates start at \$349 for a three-night cruise, \$399 for a four-night cruise and \$599 for a seven-night cruise. All rates are valid for standard inside staterooms. The number of staterooms available at these special rates is limited. For more information or to book a Disney Cruise Line vacation, military personnel can call Disney Cruise Line at (888) 325-2500.

COMPANY: **DISNEY – Disneyland/California Adventure**

PROMOTION: *"Disney's Armed Forces Salute"*

OFFER TIME: May 12-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: FREE 3-Day Ticket good for admission to both Disneyland and Disney's California Adventure™ parks. active U.S. military personnel may make a one-time purchase of 3-day Disney's Armed Forces Salute Companion Tickets during the offer period for up to five family members (including spouse) or friends for \$39 each. For complete details, go to www.disneyland.com/military

DISNEY ARMED FORCES SALUTE DETAILS:

- "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" theme park tickets can be obtained only at Main Entrance ticket windows.
- Active military personnel (or, if they are not present, their spouses) must present proper military identification.
- To purchase the tickets for family members or friends, the service member must show the complimentary ticket issued to them.
- Activated members of the National Guard or Reservists (or, if they are not present, their spouses) must also show active duty orders.
- Tickets for family members or friends may be purchased only by the active service member or spouse, not both.
- Last day of use on "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" theme park tickets is no later than December 19, 2003.
- A valid ID may be required for admission.
- This offer may not be combined with any other offer.
- Walt Disney Parks and Resorts ticket information is available at military base ticket offices.

SANDALS AND BEACHES RESORTS LAUNCHES OPERATION RELAX: TWO MILLION DOLLARS IN FREE VACATIONS GOING TO MILITARY PERSONNEL

Miami, Florida -- April 28, 2003 - Chairman Gordon "Butch" Stewart, founder of Sandals and Beaches Resorts, has announced his company's plan to launch **OPERATION RELAX** to show his support for the Armed Forces by offering complimentary vacations to troops currently serving in the military, at home or abroad. The vacations are valued at \$2 million. "The United States has offered me every opportunity and I am grateful," said Stewart. "These people have given so much. It's an honor to do something special for them and a great source of pride and pleasure that we can." This is not the first time Sandals and Beaches have offered hospitality to returning soldiers. Following the Persian Gulf War, Stewart donated vacations valued at \$1 million.

*Beginning May 9, 2003, Stewart will launch **OPERATION RELAX**, whereas the company will give \$1 million worth of complimentary four-day/three-night vacations directly to active members of the armed forces. An additional \$1 million will be donated via a sponsorship program allowing consumers and travel agents to "earn" vacations for service people from their local communities. When consumers book six or more nights in a premium room or higher and pay in full through their favorite travel agent, Sandals and Beaches Resorts will give that participating agency a complimentary three night vacation to distribute to a member of the armed forces in their area. Active military personnel or spouses of those serving overseas can apply for a complimentary vacation beginning May 9, 2003 by downloading the application form from the Sandals or Beaches website at www.sandals.com or www.beaches.com. Completed applications must be received by August 9, 2003.*

Travel Certificates, valued at approximately \$2,000 each, are valid at any Sandals or Beaches Resort in Jamaica, Antigua, St. Lucia, the Bahamas and Turks and Caicos islands. Vacations will feature Sandals' and Beaches' ultra all-inclusive amenities and services, including: complimentary deluxe hotel accommodations based on double occupancy for three nights, all meals, unlimited premium drinks, recreational activities including equipment and instruction (e.g. Scuba diving, snorkeling, golf and tennis), fitness center, daily and nightly entertainment, roundtrip airport transfers, hotel taxes and gratuities. Both military vacations and travel agent sponsorship vacations are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Vacations can be redeemed for up to two years upon issue date and cannot be resold, transferred or redeemed for cash. Sandals and Beaches Resorts reserves full rights to authorize trips and some restrictions apply.

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COMPANY: US AIRWAYS

PROMOTION: "Salute Savings"

OFFER TIME: April 21-December 31, 2003 (travel completed by Feb. 12, 2004)

DETAILS: Special fares for U.S. military personnel as low as \$79 each way, based on roundtrip purchase. Under the "Salute Savings" program, fares must be purchased roundtrip and are available for travel originating in the U.S. to destinations across the US Airways system, including Europe, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. For information on these fares, military personnel or their military I.D.-carrying family members should contact their commercial travel office. Tickets are nonrefundable and must be purchased at least three days in advance of departure. One Saturday night stay is required, and a maximum 30-day stay is allowed. Seats are limited, and other restrictions apply. Fares are available to the immediate families of members of the Armed Forces when the member is part of the traveling party. An immediate family member is defined as a parent/guardian, spouse/partner, or child.

TORTOLA FOR TWO

Set on a mile-long swatch of powdery white sand, the Long Bay Beach and Resort is considered one of the finest on Tortola. It's now saluting America's finest by presenting 10 lucky couples with a free "Romance Package". How romantic is it? Well, there'll be oceanview accommodations, four candlelight dinners for two, champagne in room upon arrival, an island tour (or one-day car rental) and complimentary daytime tennis, nine-hole pitch-and-putt, snorkeling equipment, roundtrip airport/ferry transfers, and live ocean side entertainment. This is a first-come, first-served giveaway, so call 877/906-2525 as soon as possible. For those who don't get one of the ten slots, Long Bay is giving those who served in the Iraq war a 50 percent discount on stays through Dec. 31, dropping the price of a room to \$77/night, including breakfast. For more info go to <http://www.longbay.com/>

A SALUTE FROM SIN CITY

Over sixty of Vegas' top hotels have joined together in a promotion called "Operation Welcome Home" which will net military personnel a 20 percent discount at any of the participating properties (the Aladdin, the Luxor, Excalibur, Paris Las Vegas, Stratosphere, Terribles and many others). Along with discounts on rooms, there should be some savings on dining, shopping and entertainment. Before jumping at the 20 percent, however, we'd suggest shopping around, as one often sees deeper discounts with such companies as Expedia, Hotels.com and Quikbook. For more info, go to <http://www.vegasfreedom.com/> (click on the "Great deals" section) or call 877/VISITLV.

USO And Burlington Coat Factory Launch National Military Family Support Effort

Burlington Coat Factory has begun a Military Family Support Campaign to assist military personnel and their families. Members of all branches of the U.S. military and their immediate dependents showing valid military identification, will receive 10% off their total purchase in any Burlington Coat Factory store nationwide through the end of the year. Customers will have the opportunity to offer their support for military families by purchasing a yellow ribbon for \$1 or more at registers in Burlington Coat Factory stores. Customer donations will directly benefit the USO and its programs established to benefit the families of military uniformed personnel.

CRUISE NEWS

The savings don't end on land. We've heard from the folks at Cruises Only <http://www.cruisesonly.com/> that Norwegian Cruise Lines is marking down for the military as well. Some of the discounted sailings include a 14-night "Exotic Caribbean" itinerary aboard the Norwegian Dawn for just \$399, and seven night New York-Bermuda voyages (aboard the Norwegian Sea) also for \$399. Contact Cruises Only or your favorite cruise agency for more information.

SOUTH OF THE BORDER STAYS

A company called Real Resorts, which owns almost a dozen properties on the Mayan Riviera, will be discounting rates by 50 percent at three of its properties: The Gran Porto Real Resort and Spa in Playa del Carmen, the Gran Caribe Real Resort and Spa in Cancun and the Costa Real Hotel and Suites. With the discount, all-inclusive rates will start at \$80/person, per night from now through May 20, from May 28 through July 1 and from Aug. 20 through Dec. 20. Call 800/543-7556 or go to <http://www.realresorts.com.mx/> for more information on the "Red, White and Blue" rates. The offer is open to active duty military and reservists, US Coast Guard and National Guardsmen. In addition, the town > of Puerto Vallarta has gone on a discounting spree, gifting US military at > a number of properties including the Hotel Rosita and El Pescador. Both > are located in the heart of Puerto Vallarta, adjacent to the oceanside > walkway in the center of the city. Hotel Rosita offers a special military > offer of \$50, or \$58 at the El Pescador, both with daily breakfasts (call > 877/813-6712) for travel through Dec. 21. Until Dec. 23, 2003, the Club Embarcadero Pacifico (a nautical style beach hotel in the heart of the exclusive area of Marina Vallarta) is offering special military rates at \$70 (call 011-52/322-221-1177). For more information about other participating Puerto Vallarta properties, or for general PV info, call your 888/384-6822, or log on to <http://www.visitpuertovallarta.com/>

COMPANY: **ANHEUSER BUSCH – Seaworld/Busch Garden/Sesame Place Theme Parks**

PROMOTION: *"Heroes Salute"*

OFFER TIME: May 23-November 11, 2003

DETAILS: FREE 1 day Admission to all Anheuser-Busch theme parks including SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as four of their direct dependents. Must complete Operation Salute Form and present it. Anheuser-Busch is providing free single-day admission to its SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, **National Guardsmen and up to four of their direct dependents.** This offer begins the Friday of Memorial Day weekend and concludes Veterans Day, Nov. 11. The offer also has been extended to all coalition forces serving with U.S. troops in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The program is for one single-day visit for one park per service personnel and four of their direct dependents. Honorees will be asked to fill out a registration form that is available at participating Military/MWR ticket offices and at the main gates of participating parks.

If anyone wishes to use this great offer, there is an [Operation Salute Form](#) that needs to be filled out. Here is the procedures for each one of these places to get the form. On all of these sites, by clicking on Operation Salute - they have a FAQs which can answer a lot of your questions.

www.sesameplace.com

click on [click here for more information](#)

click on [continue](#) at bottom of page - next page you will see form, you just need to print it after you fill it out

www.seaworld.com

click on [SeaWorld Orlando](#)

click on [Operation Salute \(more\)](#)

click on [continue](#) at bottom of page - next page you will see form, you just need to print it after you fill it out

www.bushgardens.com

click on [buy tickets](#)

click on [Operation Salute](#)

click on [continue](#) at the bottom of page - next page you will see form, you just need to print it after you fill it out

COMPANY: **UNIVERSAL - Orlando**

PROMOTION: *"Military Appreciation Program – Bonus Pass"*

OFFER TIME: May 13-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Free 5-Day Bonus Pass for active duty military, Reservists, and National Guard. The Bonus Pass is valid for Universal Studios® and Islands of Adventure® for a 5-day period from the first day of visit. This pass also includes the CityWalk Party Pass. Military ID must be presented to the front gate admissions to obtain this special pass. Additional Family and Friends: Up to 5 people can purchase the Bonus Pass at a 50% discount of \$49.95 plus tax. Dependent spouses with a military ID may purchase this pass if the active member is still overseas. For more information, call 407-363-800 or visit www.universalorlando.com

For individuals who would like to find out more information on Universal Studio Theme Parks. <http://www.universalstudios.com/homepage/flash/>

HOTELS

COMPANY: **DISNEY – Disneyland Resort Hotels, California**

PROMOTION: *"Disney's Armed Forces Salute"*

OFFER TIME: May 12-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Disneyland Resort Hotels are offering room rates for active military personnel at a 40 percent savings per night, based on the non-discounted price of the same room. This offer is available most nights during the offer period, and the number of rooms available at this savings is limited. For complete details, go to www.disneyland.com/military. For reservations call 714- 956-6424

COMPANY: **DISNEY – Disneyland Resort Hotels, Florida**

PROMOTION: *"Disney's Armed Forces Salute"*

OFFER TIME: May 12-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Disneyland Resort Hotels are offering room rates for active military personnel at a 40 percent savings per night, based on the non-discounted price of the same room. This offer is available most nights during the offer period, and the number of rooms available at this savings is limited. For complete details, go to www.disneyland.com/military. For reservations call 714-956-6424

COMPANY: **UNIVERSAL – Portofino Bay Hotel, Orlando, Florida**

PROMOTION: *"Military Appreciation Program"*

OFFER TIME: May 13-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Universal On-Site Hotel, Portofino Bay Hotel offers a 40% discount with military ID from 5/13/03 – 12/19/03. For reservations call 800-292-7827.

COMPANY: **UNIVERSAL – Hard Rock Hotel, Orlando, Florida**

PROMOTION: *"Military Appreciation Program"*

OFFER TIME: August 17-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Universal On-Site Hotel, Hard Rock Hotel and Royal Pacific Resort offer a 40% discount. For reservations call 800-292-7827.

COMPANY: **UNIVERSAL – Royal Pacific Resort, Orlando, Florida**

PROMOTION: *"Military Appreciation Program"*

OFFER TIME: August 17-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: Universal On-Site Hotel, Royal Pacific Resort offer a 40% discount from 8/17/03 – 12/19/03. For reservations call 800-292-7827.

COMPANY: **DAYS INN/TAMPA NORTH – Busch Gardens/Adventure Island**

PROMOTION: *"Military Appreciation Package"*

OFFER TIME: August 17-December 19, 2003

DETAILS: 40% Off Regular Prices At Our Newly Renovated Hotel. Ask For SRP Code LPMA - \$29.95 (1-2 Adults/rm.)+tax. Includes free, hot breakfast, Free Busch Gardens Tickets. Under 12 stay free Call Toll Free 866-895-6584 or www.the.daysinn.com/tampa05280

COMPANY: **RAMADA - Orlando**

PROMOTION: *"Military Rate"*

DETAILS: military rate of \$45 (+ tax and based on availability). Visit www.ramadaorlando.com or call 800-327-1363.

COMPANY: **HOLIDAY INN - Orlando**

PROMOTION: *"Military Summer Getaway Special"*

OFFER TIME: April 28-August 30, 2003

DETAILS: \$55 plus 12% tax per night for 2 Adults. Ask for the MIL 55 rate. To make reservations call 1-800-366-5437.

*NORTH CAROLINA AIR NATIONAL GUARD
TGIF NEWS
(THE GUARD IS FAMILY)*

Family Readiness Air Guard Expanded Executive Council

Fisk Outwater—Chairman

Kathleen Flaherty

Terry Henderson

Janice Richardson

Deborah Dunlap—Recognition Committee

Martha Pasour—Youth Committee

Sarah Spivey—Youth Committee

Family Readiness office telephone number

- 1-800-354-6943 ext. 4949

Cell Phone: 980-721-4019

- The fastest way to get in touch with FR is now through the cell phone, someone will answer or get back in touch with you as quickly as possible.

Emergency contact calls:

- Pager: 1-800-250-4181

*Uniting Our Air Guard
One Family at a Time*



Family Readiness

5225 Morris Field Drive
Charlotte, NC 28208

Phone: 1-800-354-6943 Ext 4949
Cell Phone: 980.721.4019

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.NCCHAR.ANG.AF.MIL



Family Readiness

Charter

Develop a program to provide information, on-going education, and assistance to families, members, and leadership aimed at preparing military members and their families for National Guard Military Life.

Mission

Educate, Support, Assist, Communicate, Collaborate, and Sustain.